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| Applicants: | Thomas H. Roessler et al. | Docket No.: | 14,541 |
| Serial No.: | Not yet assigned 09/216, 545 | Group: | Unknown |
| Filed: | December 18, 1998 | Examiner: | Unknown |
| For: | PANT-LIKE DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLES WITH AN EASY OPENING FEATURE | Date: | January 12, 1999 |

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**Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)
Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Washington, D.C. 20231

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FEB 24 1999

Sir:

Group 3700

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 et seq., Applicants, through and by their attorneys, hereby wish to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached modified PTO Form 1449 and the copies of those documents presented herewith for the Examiner's review and convenience.

Applicants also wish to bring the following commonly-assigned pending patent applications to the attention of the Examiner:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/854,934 filed May 13, 1997, by O.P. Thomas et al. for "Improved Composite Elastic Material And Process For Producing The Same."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/907,585 filed August 8, 1997, by J.D. Surprise et al. for "Multi-Functional Fastener For Disposable Absorbent Articles."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/100,382 filed June 19, 1998, by T.J. Blenke et al. for "Method Of Making Absorbent Articles Having An Adjustable Belt."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/100,574 filed June 19, 1998, by L.L. Elsberg for "Disposable Absorbent Articles Having Passive Side Bonds And Adjustable Fastening Systems."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/100,825 filed June 19, 1998, by P.S. McNichols for "Method Of Making An Absorbent Article With Prefastened Side Panels And Absorbent Articles Made By The Same."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/100,911 filed June 19, 1998, by L.L. Elsberg et al. for "Method Of Making Prefastened Disposable Absorbent Articles."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/100,547 filed June 19, 1998, by T.J. Blenke et al. for "Absorbent Articles Having A Stretch Band And Methods Of Making The Same."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. not yet assigned filed December 18, 1998, by Robert E. Vogt et al. for "Method of Making Refastenable Pant-Like Disposable Absorbent Articles."

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/100,681 filed June 19, 1998, by T.J. Blenke et al. for "Absorbent Articles Having Belt Loops And An Adjustable Belt."

These applications are not listed on the accompanying PTO Form 1449.

By inclusion of any given document in this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants in no way admit that such document is effective as prior art against the above-identified application under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103.

Additionally, submission of any document is not to be taken as an admission of the materiality of the document to the prosecution of the present application.

The Examiner is requested to review each cited document and personally determine its prior art status.

Applicants recommend that the Examiner conduct an independent search for any and all available material prior art and independently review the results of such search and the documents cited within this Statement.

Applicants request the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, to indicate and make of record receipt and review of all of these documents by initialing the appropriate box in the accompanying PTO-1449. Applicants request that the undersigned receive a copy of the initialed PTO-1449.

If the Examiner refuses to consider any or all of the herein submitted materials because it is the Examiner's opinion that this Information Disclosure Statement is not in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97,

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner notify the undersigned, in writing, as to the basis of such opinion.

Please charge any prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

The undersigned may be reached at: 920-721-8863.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS H. ROESSLER ET AL.

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Jeffrey B. Curtin
Registration No.: 37,601

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, Nanette A. Dotts, hereby certify that on January 12, 1999, this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By: Nanette A. Dotts
Nanette A. Dotts